VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1

Fancy Font® News

A newsletter for *Fancy Font* users from SoftCraft, Inc.

This is the inaugural issue of our newsletter service for *Fancy Font* users. The popularity and success of *Fancy Font* has allowed us to add personnel and expand our user services. The goals of the newsletter are to:

- provide information about updates and upcoming attractions,
- provide a forum for users' hints and suggestions, and
- describe new fonts and utilities as they become available.

The newsletter will be published irregularly, but approximately three times each year. We invite suggestions from *Fancy Font* users regarding the content of the newsletter.

UPDATE

SoftCraft has a new version of *Fancy Font*. The new version numbers are Pfont 1.8, Efont 1.3, and Cfont 1.3. The new features include:

GEMINI 10X

In addition to the Epson printers, *Fancy Font* now supports the Star Micronics Gemini 10X printer. The updated program will work on either the Epson (RX,MX,FX) or Gemini 10X depending on which is specified in the printer profile. Two profile files are provided that correspond to the Gemini 10X and the most common Epson printers.

DOS 2.0

To the frustration of some IBM users, the *Fancy Font* program is slower on the DOS 2.0 than on DOS 1.1. It seems that some of the same features that make DOS 2.0 better than DOS 1.1 make the execution of Pfont 1.7 slower. The execution speed of Pfont 1.8 with DOS 2.0 when using the parallel printer port is comparable to that of DOS 1.1 and the new version fixes a few obscure bugs that were peculiar to the IBM program. The new version also allows for parameter file input using the "@" character. The previous "<" character used in 1.7 was usurped by DOS 2.0.

FIXED-WIDTH FONT

The fonts that are provided with the *Fancy Font* program are proportionally spaced. That is, the pitch or horizontal distance between characters is not fixed: it varies with the width of the characters. Proportionally spaced type is easier on the eyes than fixed width type but is not as useful in printing spreadsheets and other applications in which you may want individual characters to line up vertically. SoftCraft provides a fixed-width font with its update that is 12 point and 12 pitch so it should correspond to the elite type on the standard typewriter. The table on page 4 of this newsletter was set in this fixed width font.

The update is available to *Fancy Font* owners who have a registration form on file. To purchase, send a $25.00 check or money order to SoftCraft with the format you desire and the serial number from your registration form.

FUTURE PLANS

UPCOMING CHANGES

A second update is being tested now and should be ready in April of 1984. It will do word wrap (fill), allow changing left and right margins, backspace, return to mark and a host of other word processing features. Quadruple density resolution on the FX printers will also be available. A similar $25.00 price will be charged for the new update.

FONT LIBRARY

SoftCraft is setting up a font library for *Fancy Font* users. If you have a font that you would like to share with others, even if it is from the Hershey data base, send a disk and a written description (size, name, mapping, what it is used for, author's name, where it is from, and version #) to SoftCraft in any of the following formats: QX-10, Osborne 1 (SD or DD), Kaypro II, IBM PC, Victor 9000, 8-inch CP/M, Xerox 820-II, NEC PC-8001A, Morrow Micro Decision-MD2 and MD3, Heath/Zenith with Magnolia controller board, Zenith Z-90 with 48 TPI disk drives, DEC VT-180, Actrix, LOBO MAX-80, Televideo TS-802, Hewlett Packard HP-125, Datavue, Sanyo, Otrona Attache, NEC PC-8801, Zenith Z-100, IMS 5000, or MAGIC Computer.

USER SAMPLE

The following is an excerpt from a booklet sent to us by Prof. Dr. H. J. Neuhaus of West Germany. Professor Neuhaus studies linguistics and has created the phonetic characters in this excerpt using Efont. Try to decypher the story.

Sample Transcriptions
(English, Received Pronunciation)

Daniel Jones (1964) Phonetic Readings in English, Heidelberg
('old-fashioned' RP)

ll. ə 'kləvər is'kəip

ə 'feɪməs 'raitə wəz e'rəstid fə 'tri:zn, ənd 'səntənst tu im'prizənmənt fə 'laif. hi: wəz pə'mitid tə 'stʌdi, hau,evə, ənd hiz 'waif wəz ə,laud tə 'vizit him 'evri 'dei.

ə 'lɑ:dʒ 'tʃest əv 'linin ənd 'buks fə ðə 'skɔləz 'ju:s wəz ə'laud tə 'pɑ:s 'in ənd 'aut əv ðə 'prizn 'evri wi:k. əv 'kɔ:s ðə 'kɔntents wə 'kɛəfəli ig'zæmind bai ðə 'gɑ:dz. bət 'æz ðei faund 'nʌθiŋ 'rɔŋ, ənd ðə 'kɔntents əv ðə ,bɔks 'vɛərid 'sou 'litl 'wi:k bai 'wi:k, ðei gru: 'kɛəlis in ðɛər in'kwaiəri, ənd ət 'lɑ:st 'gəiv 'ʌp 'sə:tʃiŋ ðə 'bɔks ɔ:ltə'geðə.

ðə di'voutid 'waif, 'noutisiŋ ðis, pə'swəidid hə: 'hʌzbənd wʌn 'dei tə 'get intə ðə 'bɔks him'self. sou səm 'houlz wə 'bɔ:d tə let 'ɛər in, ənd ðə 'gɑ:dz, hu: əv 'kɔ:s 'didnt nou 'eniθiŋ ə'baut ðis, 'dʒʌst 'kærid ðɛə 'priznər ə'wei tu iz 'frəndz.

fə 'sʌm 'dəiz hiz 'waif pri'tendid ðət hi: wəz 'stil in 'prizn bət 'tu: 'il tə bi 'si:n. in 'ðis 'wəi hi: wəz 'əibl tə 'li:v ðə 'kʌntri bi'fɔ:r iz is'kəip wəz dis'kʌvəd.

HINTS

PARAMETER INPUT FILE

If you want to print a text file more than once but do not want to retype the command line then create a parameter file. Create a file with your text editor and include in it anything that you put on your command line following "PFONT." The parameter file filename should have the extension .ffi to distinguish it from other files. For example a parameter input file for a text file with filename words.ff could have a filename words.ffi and have the following contents:

```
+fo romn12 romnb18 sans10
+tb 1.5 2.8 3.7
+tm 3.0 -bm +pl 15
+fi words.ff
```

Type the following command line to use the parameter input file (type the underlined words).

A>PFONT <WORDS.FFI or
A>PFONT @WORDS.FFI on DOS 2.0

SCAN A FILE

Check a file for errors by including "+sd +fp 99" on your command line. This displays any error messages on the screen without printing. The +sd causes the fonts to be loaded quickly (i.e., it leaves them all "on disk.") A sample command line follows:

A>PFONT TEXT.FF +SD +FP 99

MULTIPLE COPIES

Print a single page N times by following the file name on your command line with "loop: +lp N" and including the "\p" command at the beginning or end of your document. If the document is more than one page long then multiply N by the number of pages. The document should not have a "\s#" unless you want to print sequential numbers. Type the following command line:

A>PFONT TEXT.FF LOOP: +LP N

TYPEWRITER MODE

Test a new font or print a letter without using your word processor by printing the tty: file. This file will allow you to enter and print your text one line at a time. Basically it works just like one of those new typewriters with which you can enter a line, see it displayed, edit it, and then print it. With the tty: file there are two additional features:

1) You can print with your choice of *Fancy Font* or Epson Fonts.
2) You can use the pfont formatting commands.

The command line to print the tty: file is:

A>PFONT TTY: ...

where "..." can be any parameters that you want to include such as a list of fonts or tab settings. When you use the tty: file you will be prompted with "INPUT>." After this prompt you can enter a line to be printed, return to line feed, control-z to form feed to the end of the page and exit, or control-c to exit.

WORD WRAP

The following chart should help you set the word wrap on your word processor. This chart displays the approximate number of characters per inch for each font and the respective number of characters for a 6.5 inch line. Since 6.5 inches is the default line width set your word processor's line width to the given number of characters if you do not change the *Fancy Font* line width.

Example: set your word processor's line width to 114 when using 8 pt. Roman regular

If you set the *Fancy Font* line width by using the +lw <real number between 0 and 8 inches> *Fancy Font* command multiply the line width in inches by the approximate number of characters per inch and set your word processor's line width to that number.

Example: set your word processor's line width to 46 when using 18 pt. Roman bold with a *Fancy Font* line width of 5 inches (46 = 5 * 9.2)

font	characters per inch	characters per 6.5 inch line
8 pt. Roman regular	17.6	114
10 pt. Roman regular	15.4	100
11 pt. Roman regular	14.2	92
12 pt. Roman regular	13.6	88
18 pt. Roman regular	9.4	61
40 pt. Roman regular	4.1	26
12 pt. Roman regular fixed	12.0	78
10 pt. Roman italic	13.0	84
11 pt. Roman italic	13.5	88
12 pt. Roman italic	12.1	78
18 pt. Roman italic	8.8	57
10 pt. Roman bold	13.4	87
11 pt. Roman bold	12.6	83
12 pt. Roman bold	12.9	84
18 pt. Roman bold	9.2	59
8 pt. Sans Serif regular	19.2	125
10 pt. Sans Serif regular	16.6	108
11 pt. Sans Serif regular	14.9	97
12 pt. Sans Serif regular	14.9	97
18 pt. Sans Serif regular	10.1	65
12 pt. Sans Serif italic	11.8	77
18 pt. Old English	9.3	60
20 pt. Old English	8.2	53
40 pt. Old English	4.8	31
12 pt. Script	13.7	89
14 pt. Script	11.0	71
18 pt. Script	10.0	65
20 pt. Script	8.7	57
40 pt. Script	4.7	31

SEND MAIL TO SOFTCRAFT

where? 8726 S. Sepulveda Blvd. #1641
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why? 1) Order an update. Include $25.00, serial number, and format desired.
2) Send a paragraph for the next newsletter about how you use *Fancy Font*.
3) Make suggestions on the content of the newsletter.
4) Send a font for the font library (see page 2 of this newsletter).
5) Order a *Fancy Font* program for a friend.